

My name is Marissa Murphy. I recently started the fifth grade at Madison Christian School in Groveport, Ohio. My school encouraged me to participate in the Agriculture is Cool scavenger hunt at the 2017 Ohio State Fair. The Agriculture tent was my family's first stop as we entered the fair. My little sister and I were very excited to look for answers for the scavenger hunt throughout the fair grounds. With promise of free ice cream once completed, what was there to lose?

I learned a lot of things I did not already know by completing the scavenger hunt. One of the first things I learned was that soybeans are in crayons, lip balm, and shampoo. I would never have guessed soybeans were in crayons, or that there are 3500 uses for corn. I thought it was very interesting that there are many different uses for soybeans and corn, and that a pig's diet is made up of mostly corn and soybeans! I was also really surprised to learn that a sheep eats 2 to 4.5 pounds of food a day. I feel like that is a lot of food! Learning that Darke and Mercer counties have the most layer chickens in, not only the state, but the whole country made me very proud to call Ohio home! There are so many interesting agriculture facts that I did not know!

I live in the city, about five minutes from downtown Columbus, in Franklin County. One amazing fact I learned about my county is that Ohio State University's 1926 homecoming queen was actually a Holstein cow! When I get to college, the Ohio State University is my first choice, so I found this fact very interesting. Who knew a cow could be a homecoming queen? I also learned a few interesting facts about cows. I learned that a dairy cow produces over 120 cups of milk each day, and a head of cattle can make over 2000 servings of beef! I had no idea cows produced so much! I thought it was interesting to learn that a cow is pregnant for almost a year!

Though the reward of local made ice cream was very delicious, learning these facts was very rewarding in itself. Not to mention unforgettable family memories were made! This year was the most fun my family and I have had at the fair! Who knows, the seed planted through learning about agriculture may just help land a city girl like me on a farm someday in the future.

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How many servings of beef come from one head of cattle, or one cow?

Over 2000

Corn & Wheat

(Ag/Hort Building)

How many uses for corn are there?

3600

Dairy

(OVMA Veterinary Educational Center)

On average, how many glasses of milk does a dairy cow produce each day? 128 8 ounce glasses

Ohio Department of Agriculture

(ODA Tent, just inside Cardinal Gate)

Putnam county has the most historic family farms that have been owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

Ohio Farm Bureau/Land & Living Display

(Ag & Hort Bldg.)

The name of my county is:

Franklin One amazing fact about

Medical Association

(OVMA Veterinary Education Center)

What is the average gestation period for a cow? 283 days

Poultry

(Poultry Pavilion)

Which two counties in Ohio have the most layer chickens in the entire country? Franklin and Mercer counties.

Sheep

(Brown Sheep Building)

How much does a sheep eat daily? 2 to 4.5 pounds

Soy

(Ag & Hort Bldg.)

Name three products that are made with soybeans Crayons, lip balm and shampoo

Swine

(O'Neill Swine Bldg.)

A pig's diet is made up mostly of Corn and Soybeans